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Summer Institute 2000 offers information packed schedule

It's time again to make plans for the State Library's Summer Institute, scheduled this year for August 8-11 at the Holiday Inn Executive Center in Columbia.

Summer Institute enables library staff without professional library degrees to learn library basics or update their skills by enrolling in topic-specific courses. Library staff choose between two course series, Basic Library Skills or Advanced Library Skills, and receive 17 hours of training in a variety of formats.

One afternoon during the institute is reserved for short courses, which are open to participants in both series.

Basic Library Skills

Intended for first-time institute participants, this course provides an overview of library services. It is a prerequisite for all advanced institute courses.

The schedule for Basic Library Skills includes an introduction to library structure and services, the elements of a library, circulation and customer service, reference services, collection development, the evolution of technology in libraries, and a three-hour introduction to the Internet. Also included are sessions on children's and young adult services, and adult, senior and outreach services. Session instructors are practicing librarians.

Advanced Library Skills

Library Administration and Management:

Participants in this course will examine library structure and governance as well as the role of the library in the community; the administrator's responsibility to the board, community and staff; funding issues; library standards; and legal issues.

Reference Services: This course will emphasize the essential role of reference serv-

ices in the library. It will cover reference services in the small library, managing the reference collection, the reference process, and managing electronic reference services. **Services to Children:** Focusing on children ages 0-12, this course will cover the role of services to children and their families in the library and the community, the developmental stages of children, programming and its potential, evaluating children's books, and maintaining the juvenile collection. **Serving All Your Communities:** This course will deal with customer service and the importance of serving all the populations represented with limited resources, adapting current services and developing new services to meet new needs, and finding resources for building awareness and knowledge of unserved communities.

Short Courses

Participants may select three hours of short courses during the afternoon of August 10. Courses will include Small-scale Digitization Projects, Enlightened Web Searching, 1,000 Stories: Seniors Writing Life Stories, Literacy in Childhood, Internet Filtering Issues, a Small Libraries Seminar, and a Storytelling Workshop/Swap.

Registration

The State Library will mail registration forms to public and institutional libraries at the end of May. Information about the courses will also be available on the State Library's website at <http://www.sos.mo.gov/library/>. Early registration is advisable since class size is limited. Questions should be directed to Nancee Dahms-Stinson or Karen Jones at the State Library, 800-325-0131.

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Check out **newsline online** (ISSN 1088-7237) at <http://www.sos.mo.gov/library/newsline/newsline.asp>

Volunteers needed for Wolfner Library's new service program

Wolfner Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped has inaugurated a volunteer program that will encompass many opportunities for service. A division of the State Library, Wolfner Library serves as the public library for more than 15,000 Missourians who are unable to use standard print materials.

Deborah Stroup, Wolfner's coordinator of volunteers, says volunteer support will help the library provide better service to its users. She has developed a comprehensive volunteer program that includes both local and statewide opportunities. Librarians, teachers, and individuals familiar with library service would be excellent candidates for a variety of volunteer jobs including outreach and production of tape-recorded books.

A major effort of the volunteer program will be the recording of books by Missouri authors, as well as books on Missouri history, politics, culture, people, travel information, humor, and folklore. Also included would be books on the master lists of the Mark Twain Award, the Show Me Readers Award, and the Building Block Award which are not recorded by the Library of Congress's National Library Service.

For details about the program or to volunteer, contact Stroup at 800-392-2614 or 573-522-2766.

Network capacity increases for MOREnet

MOREnet staff recently completed the migration to new high-speed circuits within the MOREnet network backbone. These circuits are an integral part of MOREnet's plan to continue providing a robust and reliable network for Missouri's education, library, and research communities.

In 1999, as part of the MOREnet3 project, MOREnet increased the bandwidth capacity of the existing 45 Mbps network

backbone to 90 Mbps by adding DS-3 circuits. At that time, circuit vendors throughout Missouri were unable to provide OC-3 service (155 Mbps) and support facilities. The installation of the DS-3 circuits provided additional bandwidth for MOREnet customers, and vendors prepared for OC-3 service by upgrading their facilities.

OC-3 service is now available in Columbia, Jefferson City, St. Louis, and Springfield—four of the five areas where MOREnet network hubs are located. Most of the services provided by the DS-3 circuits have been migrated to OC-3 circuits that provide a traffic capacity of 155 Mbps. However, OC-3 service into the Kansas City area is not currently available. To increase the capacity provided by the Kansas City hub, MOREnet installed multiple DS-3 circuits to provide 135 Mbps of traffic capacity.

Safeguards have been included in the network design to ensure reliable service for MOREnet customers. MOREnet installed multiple circuits to provide redundancy, i.e., if a circuit fails, network traffic is transferred to an alternate circuit. In addition, the new OC-3 circuits feature SONET protection. Under most conditions, these circuits should "self-heal" and continue to deliver traffic if a fiber break occurs.

Missouri sends delegation to Library Legislative Day

Eight Missourians represented Missouri during National Library Legislative Day in Washington, DC. On May 1, they attended briefing sessions by staff from the American Library Association and other library and information organizations. On May 2, they met with Missouri's senators and representatives to discuss local and national library issues.

Missouri's delegation included Gerald Brooks, director of marketing for St. Louis Public Library; Judy Daniel, representing the Missouri Association of School Librarians; Victor Gragg, trustee for Mid-Conti-

nent Public Library; Mollie Lawson, director of technology services at the James C. Kirkpatrick Library, Central Missouri State University; Barbara Reading, director of library development, Missouri State Library; Monroe Smith, trustee for the Kirkwood Public Library; Helen Spalding, associate director of libraries for the University of Missouri-Kansas City; and Virginia G. Young, trustee for the Daniel Boone Regional Library.

Info-to-Go on the Web

Speed, convenience, and easy accessibility are the expectations of World Wide Web users. To take advantage of digital information delivery, the State Library's Reference Services Division released a long-time publication on the Web at the beginning of April.



Info-to-Go, a monthly bibliography of current periodical articles, has been produced by the State Library and distributed to subscribers throughout state government for more than 30 years. While the primary clientele for this publication is state government, many of the articles are of interest to a more general audience. State Library reference staff have been looking for a way to increase the circulation and instantly provide the text of the articles needed by the end user. Technology today makes this possible.

Starting with the March 2000 issue, *Info-to-Go* debuted as a web-based publication. It can be found on the State Library's homepage at <http://www.sos.mo.gov/library/>. Under the heading of "Reference Services" is a link to the current edition. Clicking on that link takes you directly to the publication. The citation for each article is followed by the link "Web Available." A mouse click on that phrase

will take you to the full-text article via EBSCOhost. Through this method of distribution, articles are instantly available to the viewer for reading or downloading for later use. Anyone accessing the Web via the Missouri Research and Education Network (MOREnet) consortium will have access to the full text of the articles. This means state government, public, school, and academic libraries have instant access to the articles needed.

The Reference Services staff is evaluating its current services and methods of delivering those services. Division director Linda Harris said, "We are entering a planning phase that will see many changes over the next few years, and we look forward to sharing those plans with the Missouri library community."

Forbes names LibrarySpot best reference website

LibrarySpot.com (www.libraryspot.com), the vertical information portal of the best library and reference resources on the Web, was one of 33 websites selected by *Forbes* magazine as a "Forbes Favorite" website in the publication's new Best of the Web guide. In the company of sites such as ESPN.com, CNET.com, and Yahoo Finance, LibrarySpot.com was selected as the "best of the best" in the reference category.

LibrarySpot.com is a 24-hour virtual library resource center for librarians and their patrons, educators and students, families, businesses, and anyone exploring the Web for research information. LibrarySpot.com simplifies the search for top-notch reference tools, periodicals and online texts, library information, encyclopedias, and more.

BookSpot.com (www.bookspot.com), LibrarySpot's sister site, was also selected for the Best of the Web guide in the books category. BookSpot.com was reviewed alongside Amazon.com, BarnesandNoble.com, and three other book sites.

The Forbes' Best of the Web guide evalu-
(continued on page 4)



Web Watch

Great American Speeches

www.pbs.org/greatspeeches/

Includes 80 years of great speeches from Americans of all persuasions from Mark Twain, Emma Goldman, and Mother Jones to George S. Patton, Malcolm X, and Ronald Reagan. Also includes background about the speakers and a timeline of events to put the speech in historical context. The Speech Archives is arranged by era.

Museum of Web Art

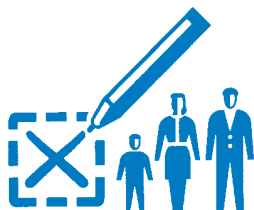
www.mowaw.org/

This site offers galleries and exhibits devoted entirely to the artistic elements of web design, counters, buttons, etc. It's an amazing resource for both art and graphics students and others interested in the potential and power of web design.

World Skip.com

www.worldskip.com/

An easy-to-use index of websites from countries around the world. Choose a country and find out local news and information about business, economics, travel, and activities.



Population of the United States by Census Year

2000	?
1990	248,709,873
1980	226,542,199
1970	203,302,031
1960	179,323,175
1950	151,325,798
1940	132,164,569
1930	123,202,624
1920	106,021,537
1910	92,228,496
1900	76,212,168
1890	62,979,766
1880	50,189,209
1870	38,558,371
1860	31,443,321
1850	23,191,876
1840	17,063,353
1830	12,860,702
1820	9,638,453
1810	7,239,881
1800	5,308,483
1790	3,929,214

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

ated more than 5,000 sites on five criteria: design, navigation, content, speed, and customization. Out of 1,200 sites selected for the online guide (www.forbesbest.com), only 260 sites were featured in the print guide and 33 were designated as "Forbes Favorites."

Teen Read Week encourages teens to make time for reading

The theme for the third annual Teen Read Week, October 15-21, 2000, is "Take Time to Read." Sponsored by the American Library Association and the Young Adult Library Services Association, Teen Read Week encourages teens to read for the fun of it. The theme was chosen based on an online survey conducted during last year's Teen Read Week by YALSA in partnership with SmartGirl.com. Of the more than 3,000 young men and women surveyed, nearly half said they enjoyed reading for fun, but did not have time to do so.

Like librarians, reading teachers also have expressed their concern about helping teens make time to read. According to a Statement on Adolescent Literacy from the International Reading Association, "an often overlooked—yet essential—component of access to reading is the time available for it. Adolescents deserve specific opportunities to schedule reading into their days."

In the next few months, tips and suggestions, program ideas, research and resources will be posted on the Teen Read Week website (www.ala.org/teenread).

DESE approves public libraries as literacy partners

Local adult education and family literacy programs will be reimbursed for contact hours when a low-level literacy student is tutored at a *public library facility*. The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is offering this expanded initiative on a trial basis.

Both the literacy tutor and student must be working through a DESE-funded adult basic education program. If a tutoring session occurs in a public library, a library staff member must verify that the session took place. The adult education and family literacy program site remains responsible for reporting progress and maintaining records in accordance with current volunteer tutor and literacy coordinator guidelines and procedures, as if the student and tutor were on-site at the local adult education and family literacy program.

For information about the public library literacy initiative, contact Dr. Jon Warren at DESE, 752-1249, or Karen Jones, the State Library's literacy coordinator, at 800-325-0131, ext. 11.

Estimates at century's end reveal population shifts



Missouri has gained over 352,000 persons since 1990—a growth rate of 6.9 percent.

New 1999 population estimates released in early March by the Missouri Office of Administration and the U.S. Bureau of the Census reveal continued rapid population growth in the Ozarks and in areas around the state's metropolitan centers.

The state's population increased by nearly 32,000 people in one year to an estimated total of 5,469,531 on July 1, 1999. This 0.6 percent growth rate compares to a national growth rate of 0.9 percent over the same period. Much of the growth was due to migration gains. Nearly 12,000 more people moved into the state than moved out of it. Natural growth (birth minus deaths) was about 20,000 persons.

"Our population continues to grow vigorously," said Ryan Burson, Missouri state demographer. "There are substantial gains in the Ozarks and in our metropolitan areas. We are also experiencing new growth in

many rural counties. We have 35 counties whose 1999 populations are less than they were at the beginning of the century, but they are gaining population in the 1990s.”

The 19 fastest-growing counties in percentage terms between 1990 and 1999 were: Christian (4.8%), Warren (3.8%), Ralls (3.3%), Cass (3.1%), St. Charles (3.1%), Taney (3.0%), Webster (2.8%), Morgan (2.6%), and Clinton (2.5%). Migration gains were responsible for most of their growth. Seven of the top 10 are metropolitan counties near St. Louis, Kansas City, and Springfield. Ralls, Taney, and Morgan counties are classified by the federal government as nonmetropolitan areas.

The population estimates were the last estimates to be released before Census Day, April 1, 2000.

American FactFinder: accessing data from Census 2000

American FactFinder is the Census Bureau’s electronic data dissemination system available to the public on the bureau’s web-site at <http://www.census.gov>. It will be the primary site for users to access data from Census 2000, the American Community Survey (a large, ongoing survey being phased in over the next several years to replace the long form census questionnaire by 2010), and the 1997 Economic Census, currently being released.

American FactFinder grew out of the Census Bureau’s efforts to address two goals: 1) expand public access to demographic and economic information in a way that is cost effective, and 2) provide access to customized tabulations via the Internet.

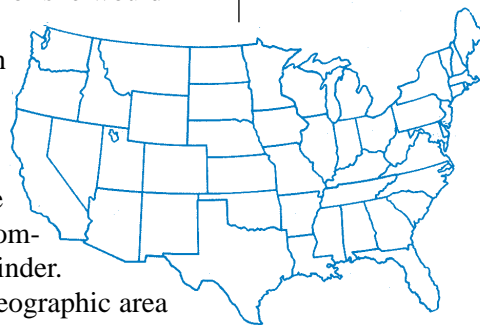
After going through two prototypes, the American Fact Finder was released on the Internet in March 1999. By early 2001, the first data from Census 2000 will be available on the system. Information down to the census tract level from the Census 2000 short form is expected to be released during the summer and fall of 2001. Information down to the census tract level from the long

form is expected to be released during the last six months of 2002.

While print copies of standard reports for Census 2000 will still be available (often in pdf format on the World Wide Web), American FactFinder will permit users to create custom tabulations from Census 2000 microdata files. An individual can select the variables and geography he or she would like to retrieve, compute simple statistics, and obtain a thematic map. It is important to note that the strict standards of confidentiality adhered to by the Census Bureau are a key component of American Fact Finder.

Unless numbers within a geographic area (e.g., town, census tract, etc.) are at a level to assure confidentiality, a response will be suppressed. For example, if too few African-American families or householders over age 65 live in a census tract, data commonly released by census tract may not be available in that case.

Already available on FactFinder are the Population and Housing Facts, which offer detailed data from the 1990 census. Users may view predefined tables, browse detailed tables from the summary data files, or use an advanced query to create customized tables from the full Public Use Microdata files. Map options allow users to access thematic maps or create their own maps, which can be combined with customized statistical data.



MOREnet offers training newsletter

MOREnet’s training department has developed a newsletter, *Trainer*, to inform libraries and schools about its training opportunities. The newsletter is available online at www.more.net/training/trainer/. The current issue includes a training schedule, trainer profiles, training survey, request for regional training sites, and information about summer training camps and a new electronic resource.

Show Me Readers and Mark Twain award winners

Winners of the 2000 Show Me Readers and Mark Twain awards were announced at the Readers Award Banquet during the Missouri Association of School Librarians (MASL) spring conference on April 10.

Verdi by Janell Cannon won the Show Me Readers Award. A total of 33,000 students in 503 schools voted in the race for the award.

Saving Shiloh by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor won the Mark Twain Award, with 4,506 votes.

Lists of the nominees for the 2000-2001 awards can be found at the MASL website: <http://tiger.coe.missouri.edu/~masl/awards/showme.html>.

Both awards are sponsored by MASL, the Show Me award for children in grades one through three and the Mark Twain award for children in grades four through eight.



newsline welcomes information for "Missouri Library News" and "Personal Notes" from librarians, library trustees, and others interested in the state's libraries. Send news about library events, projects, awards, and personnel changes to the editor. (See page 2 for contact information.)







Mark your calendar!
November 11, 2000

Fourth Celebration of the Book—at the University of Missouri—Columbia.

Rave reviews for Springfield-Greene County Library's phone reference service

"The most positive survey we've ever done," said Mark Ellickson, owner of Opinion Research Specialists in Springfield. Ellickson was hired by Springfield-Greene County Library to conduct a survey of patrons who had recently used the library's telephone reference service. Until the library survey, the veteran poll-taker had never received 100% in answer to any question.

Ellickson and his employees interviewed by phone 216 patrons who had called one of the library's branches to ask a question during a two-week period. In his analysis of the results, Ellickson found that the library staff provide superior service. A few highlights:

-  100% of respondents said their telephone calls to the library reference departments had been answered in a friendly and courteous manner.
-  100% of respondents said the library had called back with the requested reference information within an acceptable period of time.
-  99% of respondents said their calls to the reference department had been answered in a prompt and timely manner.
-  99% of respondents were satisfied with the information they received from the library's reference departments.

\$1 million pledge for library completion at Southwest Baptist University

Southwest Baptist University has received a \$1 million pledge from Bill and Nancy Jester to help complete the university library building. The university's board of trustees voted to name the building the Jester Learning and Performance Center.

With the gift funds, the university will

finish the building that houses the Harriet K. Hutchens Library. The university's theater, art, communications, and language-literature departments will also be housed in the center.

Most of the money for the project has been raised, and construction is slated to begin this summer. Completion is scheduled for January 2001.

The Jesters are SBU alumni. Bill Jester is a former SBU vice president for university advancement.

Partial victory in "Little House" lawsuit

U.S. District Judge Ortzie Smith has ruled to dismiss the Wright County Library's claims to royalties from six books by Laura Ingalls Wilder, but ordered the lawyers for the current copyright holder and the library board to begin mediation over rights to the remaining five books.

Wilder bequeathed her estate to her daughter, Rose Wilder Lane, for use during her lifetime. After Lane's death, the rights and income from her mother's books were to go to the Laura Ingalls Wilder Library in Mansfield, a branch of the Wright County Library. Instead, Lane bequeathed the rights to a friend, the late Roger Lea MacBride. And MacBride willed the rights to his daughter.

Plaintiffs in the suit—the Wright County Library Board—charge that the library is owed royalties from Wilder's works, while the defendants—MacBride's daughter and the publisher HarperCollins—claim that Lane properly renewed her mother's first six copyrights and legally willed them to MacBride.

In dismissing the library's claims to the first six copyrights, Judge Smith wrote in his opinion: "While Laura desired that all copyrights of her books go to the Wright County Library after Rose's [Wilder's daughter] death, Congress dictated another method of bequeathing copyrights after an author's death, independent of and potentially contrary to the author's specific instructions. However, Plaintiffs' claims to

the copyrights of the remaining books turn on further developments of the facts and are not subject to dismissal upon the pleadings.”

Kate Chopin Society of North America founded at Kirkwood Public Library

Except for her star in University City’s Walk of Fame, Kate Chopin, 19th century author of *The Awakening*, prolific crafter of short stories, regular newspaper columnist, accomplished musician and composer, has been largely ignored in her home town. Today’s high school juniors probably know more about Kate Chopin than most St. Louis adults. Kirkwood Public Library has acted to correct this oversight.

Following its highly successful celebration of the publication centennial of *The Awakening* in April 1999, the library determined to establish a Kate Chopin Society to further the study and appreciation of her work. On her 150th anniversary, February 8, 2000, Chopin aficionados, friends, and family met to celebrate and to announce the formation of the Kate Chopin Society of North America. The Society plans to hold a one-day conference in connection with the annual Kate Chopin celebration, to publish a newsletter, and to meet on a regular schedule to discuss her writing.

Those interested in learning more about the Kate Chopin Society may call 314-821-5770, ext. 22, or check the Society’s website at http://members.tripod.com/Kchopin_Society/.

St. Louis Public Library organizes adult reading club

From April 10 to June 3, St. Louis Public Library has invited its adult cardholders to join Pageturners, a new adult reading club available at all library locations. Pageturners promotes good reading and listening (to audio books) and the opportunity to earn quality prizes.

Club members receive a Pageturners Reading Log, in which they keep track of the books read or listened to. When the

reading goal of 15 books is reached, members receive an official Pageturners certificate, a special canvas library book bag, and a chance to win two tickets to a St. Louis Cardinals baseball game. The library will draw the winners’ names and begin giving away tickets after June 17.



Authorene Phillips, interim library director at the Marshall Public Library, sorts through stacks of children’s books following a Family Night at the Library presentation by Karen Jones, literacy consultant at the State Library. For information about Family Nights, contact Jones at 800-325-0131, ext. 11.

(Marshall Democrat-News photo by Bob G. Stewart)

Kansas City’s NovelBall 2000

During March, the Kansas City Public Library and *The Independent* (a local magazine) hosted a NovelBall, or as the two organizations called it, an “un-ball.” Publicized on the library’s website and in area publications, the NovelBall was a fundraiser for the library’s Literacy for Life Fund. Donations to this fund are used to purchase books and materials. The NovelBall was the library’s first venture into Web fundraising.

As the publicity said, “Instead of dressing up, making small talk and eating another one of those chicken dinners—we’re asking people to check out their favorite book, put

(continued on page 8)

More Library News





The other digital divide

An estimated 113 million people use computers at work, and an estimated 105 million people use computers at home. However, the majority of these people cannot be considered computer literate.

This phenomenon, known as the "Computer Proficiency Digital Divide," is a result of the fact that most employees use a computer for one or two specialized purposes, such as word processing or e-mailing, and are not motivated to teach themselves more than is required to perform a given task.

For example, an accountant may appear to be a computer whiz when expertly navigating the accounting software used in the office. But ask that accountant to create a birthday card or design a database, and he or she will most likely be unable to do so.

The majority of Internet users also appear to be severely computer illiterate. Research suggests that most people surfing the Web are wandering aimlessly because they lack the knowledge necessary to conduct targeted searches to find specific things.

Source: *Interactive Week*, March 27, 2000

on their comfortable clothes and read! Oh, yes, and make a donation to The Literacy for Life Fund."

The NovelBall was also the occasion for the compilation of the top books of the century as voted on by donors and library patrons. The resulting reading list will be promoted in *The Independent* and throughout the library. The library invited patrons to vote or make donations online at the library's website.

According to library marketing director Teresa Stohs, the NovelBall home page received more than 1,500 hits. She said the current donation total is nearly \$20,000, and donations are still coming in. Comments from "attendees" included "thank you for a wonderful evening at home," "the best ball I've ever been to," and "what a novel idea."

Maryville Public Library receives major donation, completes addition

Kawasaki Maryville presented a donation of \$10,000 to the Maryville Public Library to be used for completion of a library addition. This is the second consecutive year the company has given \$10,000 to the library's building fund. The company's theme is "You never stop learning."

Maryville library director Diane Houston says the entire library collection will be moved to the 5,300-square-foot addition while the original structure undergoes renovation. The addition will house books for adults, computers for Internet access, the circulation desk, and a work room. Houston hopes to open for business in the addition during the first week of May.

The 1912 structure was a post office until 1962 when the library took ownership. When the renovation is completed, the structure will house the children's area, a conference room, privacy rooms for studying, and a magazine reading/leisure space. A special feature of the children's area will be a barn complete with a silo and picket fence shelving.

More than 400 local businesses and indi-

viduals donated about \$525,000 to the building campaign, which began in 1998.

Thomasville residents enjoy new library programs

Bernadette Watkins, Thomasville Library director, reports that the library's new adult program effort has been a success. Two years ago, she set out a suggestion box asking community residents for program ideas. Although she received many suggestions, the library couldn't begin full-blown programming because of a space problem. When the library's floor space was extended last year, programming began in earnest with a series of presentations by a university outreach and extension specialist. This year's series have included presentations by area professionals and volunteers on a variety of topics. Scheduled for spring are programs on the aging process, the role of humor in our lives, accessible gardening, and myths and fads surrounding herbs.

Watkins said patrons have shown great interest in the series and continue to suggest topics for future programs. She hopes the programs will become monthly events.

The Thomasville Library is a branch of Oregon County Library.

Bethany Public Library surveys area libraries

Last year, the building which housed the Bethany Public Library was declared unstable, so the library moved to temporary quarters. Since then, the city formed an ad hoc committee to make recommendations about rebuilding the library. The committee surveyed patrons and 25 community groups about what they would like in a new facility. From the responses, the committee learned that residents want the library to remain in its original downtown site. Residents also want expansion of the computer area, increased Internet access, and space for more children's programs.

The Bethany city administrator suggested that committee members send disposable cameras to public libraries in the region and ask the librarians to photograph the features

Library election results

Three Missouri libraries received good news on election day, April 4, and one library proposal was defeated.

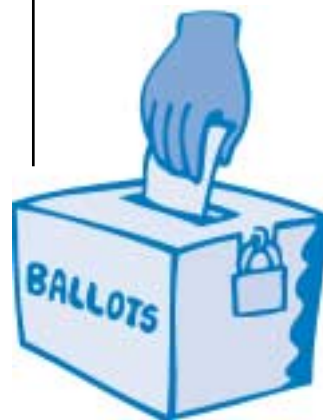
Callaway County: With the passage of a six-cent increase in its operating levy, the Callaway County Library in Fulton will be able to maintain current operations and make needed repairs to the building. It had been 33 years since Callaway County voters approved an increase in the library's levy.

Caruthersville: Citizens in Caruthersville renewed a sales tax, which will be used for capital improvements, including construction of a new city library. According to Caruthersville library director Sam Duckworth, construction will start at the end of the summer and be completed in approximately 16 months. At 12,500 square feet, the new library will be four times the size of the present structure and will feature a special collections area, a genealogy room, a larger children's department, and a room for the Pemiscot County Historical Society's collection. It also will include an auditorium with telecommunications capability.

Gentry County: Several years ago, former Gentry County Library director Aletha Whittington donated \$100,000 to begin a building fund for a new library. She dreamed of a new library combining traditional materials with technological resources—a library for the next generation. Whittington's dream will be realized since county residents passed a bond issue that will provide funds for the acquisition, construction, equipping, and furnishing of a new library.

Gentry County Library director Judy Beatty said a recent patron survey indicated library patrons wanted more books as well as more programming, more storyhours, and more computer classes. To meet these needs, an on-site meeting room is included in plans for the new library.

Jefferson County: Martha Maxwell, Jefferson County Library director, reported that a proposal to create a library subdistrict in Hillsboro was defeated by a small margin. She noted that only 20 percent of the registered voters cast their ballots.



MU to celebrate library science

The School of Information Science & Learning Technologies at the University of Missouri-Columbia will host a dinner on September 23, 2000, from 5 to 10 p.m. in celebration of the field of library and information science.

Dinner will be held at the Holiday Inn Executive Center in Columbia. The guest speaker will be Kathleen McCook, former dean of library schools at the University of Southern Florida and Louisiana State University.

For more information, contact Sarah Taylor at 573-882-4546 or by e-mail at TaylorSC@missouri.edu. Cost of the dinner is \$22/person.

they like and don't like in their facilities. Eight libraries responded, and the photographs from these libraries are displayed on panels in the Bethany library. "This was a great idea," said Bethany library director Betty Jo Jones. "We received some really helpful tips, especially for the children's area." All eight librarians cited the importance of planning for expansion and technology, said Jones.

Statewide Reference Center augments local service

Last year, the Statewide Reference Center researched 5,009 questions. During the first quarter of the year (January-March 2000), the center researched 1,298 questions. This

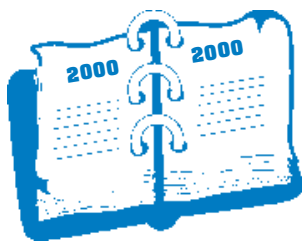
represents 192 questions from librarians and 1,106 questions from individuals.

Based at the Kansas City Public Library and funded through the Library Services and Technology Act, the center relies on library referrals only to advertise its service. Its goal is to help local librarians provide excellent reference service to their patrons.

The center has added many new links to its web page (www.missouriref.org/), including Teachers Resources, which offers a list of teacher study guides. Also included are links to information on a variety of subjects from business and government to genealogy and recreation.

To contact the Statewide Reference Center, phone 800-633-0603.

Upcoming Events



June 1-2
Missouri Public Library Directors Meeting
West Plains

June 2-4
BookExpo America
Chicago

June 10-15
Special Libraries Association Annual Conference
Philadelphia

June 15
Secretary's Council on Library Development Meeting
Warrensburg

July 2
National Literacy Day

July 6-13
American Library Association Annual Conference
Chicago

July 15-20
American Association of Law Libraries Annual Conference
Philadelphia

July 18-19
Missouri Census Data Center Annual Conference
Jefferson City

August 8-11
Library Skills Institute
Columbia

August 13-18
IFLA General Conference
Jerusalem

University of Missouri-Columbia Summer 2000 Courses

<i>Course Number & Title</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Course Instructor</i>
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Kansas City

Q301-2 Introduction to Information Technology	June 13-August 1	Steve Potter
Q312-2 Principles of Cataloging & Classification	June 12-July 31	Ted Ostaszewski
Q380-1 Practicum	June 12-July 31	Gillian Allen
Q380-2 Practicum: School Library Media Specialist	June 12-July 31	Linda Esser
Q405-1 Multimedia Production	June 12-30	Floyd Pentlin

St. Louis

Q301-3 Introduction to Information Technology	June 13-August 1	Bill Rodgers
Q312-3 Principles of Cataloging & Classification	June 15-July 31	Kathy Nystrom
Q380-1 Practicum	June 12-July 31	Gillian Allen
Q380-2 Practicum: School Library Media Specialist	June 12-July 31	Linda Esser
Q426-1 Multimedia Resources of Libraries	June 13-July 20	Dale Guthrie
Q432-1 Automated Reference	June 2-4 & June 9-11	Mary Ellen Sievert

Springfield

Q301-4 Introduction to Information Technology	June 12-August 3	Lynne Freeman
Q312-4 Principles of Cataloging & Classification	June 12-August 3	Michelle Turvey & Karen Letarte
Q380-1 Practicum	June 12-July 31	Gillian Allen
Q380-2 Practicum: School Library Media Specialist	June 12-July 31	Linda Esser

Summer Internet Courses

Q310-8 Introduction to Web Development	June 14-August 1	Jane Howland
Q316-1 Administration of School Libraries/Media Centers	June 13-July 7	Linda Esser
Q406-1 Integration of School Library Media Programs/School Curriculum	July 10-August 4	Linda Esser
Q410-2 Internet Reference	June 12-July 24	Vicky Baker
Q450-1 Research Methods	June 10-August 1	John Wedman

The following Internet courses will require an additional one-week face-to-face session on the Southwest Missouri State University campus, July 17-21.

Q420-1 Information in the Disciplines	June 13-July 31	John Budd
Q443-1 The Academic Library	June 13-July 31	John Budd

Missouri librarian receives prestigious literary award

John Mort, adult services librarian for River Bluffs Regional Library in St. Joseph, is the winner of the bill boyd Literary Novel Award. Mort's winning novel, *Soldier in Paradise*, grew out of his experiences in the Vietnam War.

The bill boyd Literary Novel Award honors the best fiction set in a period when the United States was at war. The \$5,000 cash award and citation donated by author bill boyd recognizes the service of American veterans and military personnel and encourages the writing and publishing of outstanding war-related fiction.

Mort served as a radio operator with the First Cavalry in 1969 and 1970, returning to school in 1970. He received a B.A. in English in 1972 and after a short period of teaching high school, entered the University of Iowa's Writers' Workshop, from which he received an M.F.A. in 1974. In 1976, he received his M.L.S. from the University of Iowa. He has worked in newspaper, academic, and public libraries.

In 1993 and 1994, he was the adult books editor for *Booklist*, and has written a column on Christian fiction, for *Booklist*. Since leaving the magazine, he has written for Gale and Kirkus as well, and is currently working on a book on Christian fiction for Libraries Unlimited's Genreflecting series.

Soldier in Paradise, his first novel, took 12 years to complete. Some parts of *Soldier* were adapted from Mort's two collections of stories, *Tanks* (BkMk, 1987) and *The Walnut King* (Woods Colt, 1990). Mort is also at work on a novel set in the Missouri Ozarks, a region where he grew up.

"Librarianship—particularly reference work and collection development, which have been my callings—is a good match for writers," Mort says. "I don't know why you don't run onto more writers in the profession than you do. On the other hand, it's somewhat schizophrenic, to work all day with Web pages and romances, then go home, have something to eat, clear your head, and plunge into the Great American Novel."

The award will be presented on July 11 during the American Library Association annual conference in Chicago.



Pulitzer Prize Winners

Winners of the 2000 Pulitzer Prize include the following titles.

General Nonfiction

Embracing Defeat: Japan in the Wake of World War II
by John W. Dower
(W.W. Norton & Company/The New Press, 1999)

Fiction

Interpreter of Maladies
by Jhumpa Lahiri
(Mariner Books/Houghton-Mifflin, 1999)

Biography or Autobiography

Vera (Mrs. Vladimir Nabokov): A Biography
by Stacy Schiff
(Random House, 1999)

History

Freedom From Fear: The American People in Depression and War, 1929-1945
by David M. Kennedy
(Oxford University Press, 1999)

Poetry

Repair
by C.K. Williams
(Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1999)

National panel issues major report on reading instruction

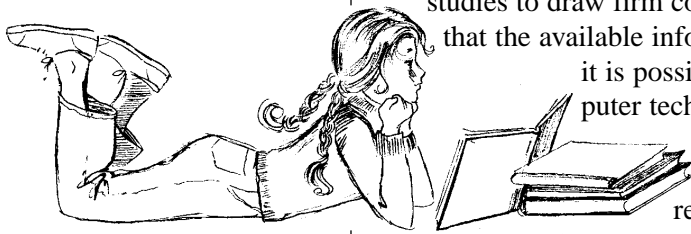
The most effective way to teach children to read is through instruction that includes a combination of methods. That's the conclusion of a Congressionally mandated independent panel that conducted the largest, most comprehensive evidence-based review of research on how children learn reading.

The panel determined that effective reading instruction includes teaching children to

break apart and manipulate the sounds in words (phonemic awareness), teaching them that these sounds are represented by letters of the alphabet which can then be blended together to form words (phonics), having them practice what they've learned by reading aloud with guidance and feedback (guided oral reading), and applying reading comprehension strategies to guide and improve reading comprehension.

The panel also examined the use of computer technology to reach reading. Mem-

(continued on page 12)



"When the free public library came into its own in this country in the 19th century, it was, from the beginning, a unique institution because of its commitment to the same principle of free and open exchange of ideas as the Constitution itself. Libraries have always been an integral part of all that our country embodies: freedom of information, an educated citizenry, and an open and enlightened society."

Entered into the Congressional Record (PS2461, April 10) by Senator Paul S. Sarbanes during National Library Week 2000

bers noted that there are too few definitive studies to draw firm conclusions, but that the available information suggests it is possible to use computer technology for reading instruction. Although not directly applicable to

reading instruction, the use of hypertext—highlighted text that links to definitions or related text—may be a useful learning aid in the classroom. Moreover, the use of computers as word processors may also help students learn to read, as reading instruction is most effective when combined with writing instruction.

The work of this panel was guided by two

unique actions. First, the panel developed a set of rigorous scientific standards to evaluate the research on the effectiveness of different instructional approaches used in teaching reading skills. Second, the work of the panel was conducted in a public forum, which allowed for public input at all of its meetings.

The report, about the National Reading Panel, is available at website, <http://www.nationalreadingpanel.org>.

The NICHD will undertake an aggressive effort to distribute the report and its findings to policy makers, educators, and parents. It will collaborate in these efforts with the National Institute for Literacy and the Public Libraries Association.

Spring 2000 Literacy Gatherings

There is a growing interest in the subject of literacy throughout the United States. Missouri's libraries support literacy generally by the simple fact of their existence, but many Missouri libraries also make specific efforts to offer literacy activities and services to their patrons.

Missouri's libraries host and support literacy activities formally, informally, and in cooperation with other agencies. Since libraries focus on their local communities, literacy activities in libraries may be quite different from community to community.

The State Library arranges and moderates periodic Literacy Gatherings to discuss the variety of the state's library literacy efforts. During the spring of 2000, the State Library held Literacy Gatherings in several

Missouri libraries. March gatherings were held at the Gentry County Library in Stanberry, the Daniel Boone Regional Library in Columbia, and the Hannibal Free Public Library. April gatherings were held at the Northwest Branch of the Jefferson County Library in High Ridge and The Library Center of the Springfield-Greene County Library. Staff members from various libraries as well as local literacy practitioners joined to discuss problems and solutions, share ideas, and facilitate cooperation and networking.

For information about Literacy Gatherings, Family Nights at the Library, or literacy efforts in Missouri's libraries, contact Karen Jones at the State Library, 800-325-0131, ext. 11, 573-751-0158.

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